

## MEETING OF

### THE DELAWARE AGRICULTURAL LANDS PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

A meeting of the Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Foundation was held at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, 2320 S. DuPont Hwy. Dover, Delaware, December 9, 2009, with the following members in attendance:

Robert F. Garey, Chairman	David Pyne (representing Edwin Kee, Secretary of Agriculture)
William Vanderwende, Vice Chairman	Kevin Coyle (representing Collin O'Mara, Secretary of DNREC)
L. Allen Messick, Jr., Treasurer	Velda Jones- Potter, State Treasurer
Theodore P. Bobola, Jr.	Steven L. Ditmer
G. Ray Staats	

Absent: Lyn Davenport.

The following staff members were in attendance: Howard Mesick, Milton Melendez, Scott Blaier, Cathy Mesick, and Robin West.

Others in attendance: William Denman, Esq.

Chairman Garey opened the meeting at 8:30 a.m. with prayer.

Chairman Garey introduced the new Board member, Mr. Steven Ditmer, who was just elected Chairman of the Governor's Council on Forestry.

#### I. Progress Report:

Milton Melendez informed the Board that we have a total of 1,030 farms in preservation districts totaling 149,956 acres, with a total of 564 farms under agricultural easements totaling 94,422 acres at a cost of \$158,120,812. For PDR 15 there are a total of 54 farms, comprising 3,985 acres, with a value of \$52,263,437. For PDR 16, there are a total of 26 farms, comprising 2,435 acres, with a value of \$33,895,414. For the Forestland Preservation Program there are 34 Forestland Preservation Areas comprising 2,506 acres. For the Forestland Preservation Areas Easements, there are a total of 9 properties, comprising 871 acres, with a value of \$1,448,482.

#### II. District Eligibility:

1. Jones Church District, ID#S-09-08-255. After discussion, **Allen Messick, Jr. moved to accept for eligibility the Jones Church District, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**

#### III. Expansion Eligibility & Final Approval:

1. Torres Expansion of the Albert D. Warren District, ID#K-09-09-008F. After discussion, **William Vanderwende moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Torres Expansion of the Albert D. Warren District, seconded by Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**

2. E & M Issacs Expansion #1 of the Issacs #3 Reed Jensen District, ID#S-09-11-156D. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the E & M Issacs Expansion #1 of the Issacs #3 Reed Jensen District contingent upon sale, seconded by Allen Messick, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**

3. E & M Issacs Expansion #2 of the Issacs #3 Reed Jensen District, ID#S-09-11-156E. After discussion, **William Vanderwende moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the E & M Issacs Expansion #2 of the Issacs #3 Reed Jensen District, seconded by Allen Messick, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**

IV. Secretary of Agriculture's Veto – David Pyne waived the right of veto for the above District and Expansions as Secretary Kee's representative.

V. Public Comments – No public comments were received.

VI. Minutes:

Chairman Garey asked if there were any comments or changes to the November 18, 2009, minutes. Hearing none, the Chairman asked for a motion to approve the minutes. **William Vanderwende moved to approve the November minutes, seconded by Ray Staats. Motion unanimously approved.**

VII. Financial Highlights:

Howard Mesick then presented the Financial Statement for the month of November 2009, informing the Foundation Board that we had, as of November 30, 2009, \$368,246.03 in the Foundation's interest bearing State of Delaware account. We received \$1,155.13 from rollback taxes and \$192.00 interest income. Expenditures for the month of November totaled \$46,611.07. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to approve the November 2009 financial statement as presented, seconded by Velda Jones-Potter. Motion unanimously approved.**

VIII. Executive Session – There was no need for an executive session.

IX. Other Business:

1. Wilson Farm

Scott Blaier presented a summary of the Wilson Farm for those Board members who were new, and then informed the Board that two responses to the request for proposal on the lease of the Wilson Farm had been received. William Denman informed the Board that both responses met the legal criteria and the RFP criteria. It is now for the Wilson Farm RFP Committee to meet and decide on the new tenant for the lease.

X. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Foundation, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m. The next meeting of the Foundation will be held on January 20, 2010 at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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William Vanderwende.  
Vice Chairman